



EMERGENCY CORONAVIRUS RELIEF ACT OF 2020 STATUS

The S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce is monitoring negotiations in Washington that could affect unemployment insurance for South Carolinians.

The current bill has gone through several updates and changes and may continue to do so up until it is passed by Congress.

The high-level point of the existing draft of the bill extends CARES Act programs into 2021.

In general, what the agency has heard reported in proposed legislation related to UI includes:

New PUA provisions extends PUA and could potentially increase the current 39-week program up to 55 weeks.

Requires new PUA claimants filing January 1 or after to provide proof of their employment or self-employment within 21 days.

Extension of the 50% federal funding for reimbursable employers into 2021.

Up to 16 weeks of a \$300 FPUC benefit for weeks of unemployment beginning after the week of December 26th and ending in 2021. (These provisions are being negotiated and may change if a flat stimulus check is sent.)

Extension of PEUC into 2021 and could potentially increase the current 13-week program up to 29 weeks.

Because negotiations happen so quickly and revisions to the bill are fluid, our agency (and to an extent, even the U.S. Department of Labor) does not know the full details or final changes until a bill is passed. We are simply gathering information that has been discussed publicly as decisions for the bill and sharing with South Carolina in one place.

In particular, the dates and number of weeks are still being discussed and should not be considered final.

Once the bill has been completed and then has passed in both the House and Senate and is signed by the president, we will be able to share more information.

Please see the back of this sheet to gain a better understanding of the process and timing of benefits in South Carolina once the bill is passed.

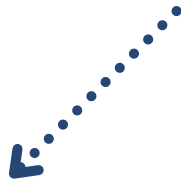
TIMING OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FROM BILL TO BENEFITS

It is a common misperception that when Congress passes a bill that allows state agencies to use federal dollars to pay unemployment insurance under new programs, that state agencies can immediately begin dispersing benefits. However, there are many steps to this process that affect how quickly a state agency like DEW can begin paying benefits from a new or extended program.



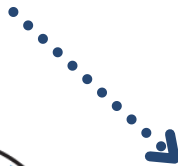
STEP 1

The Senate and House must both pass a bill for approval. Once passed by both houses of Congress, it goes to the President of the United States.



STEP 2

The president must sign the bill in order for it to become a federal law.



STEP 3

Congress provides the final approved document to the U.S. Department of Labor, and it must then be turned into actionable guidance for each state to accept and implement.



STEP 4

Each state must review and apply the guidance from DOL and coordinate with their state law.



STEP 5

Each state agency must program the new guidance into the UI system to accept the new federal guidelines.

From passage of a bill to program implementation within a state can take up to 4 to 6 weeks. If the new program requires back pay of benefits to a set date, South Carolina will ensure this is processed accordingly for claimants deemed eligible.